

BLONDIE



SALLY FORTH



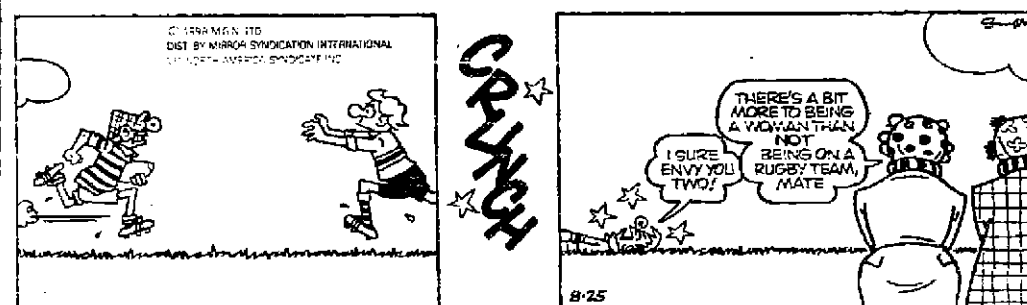
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



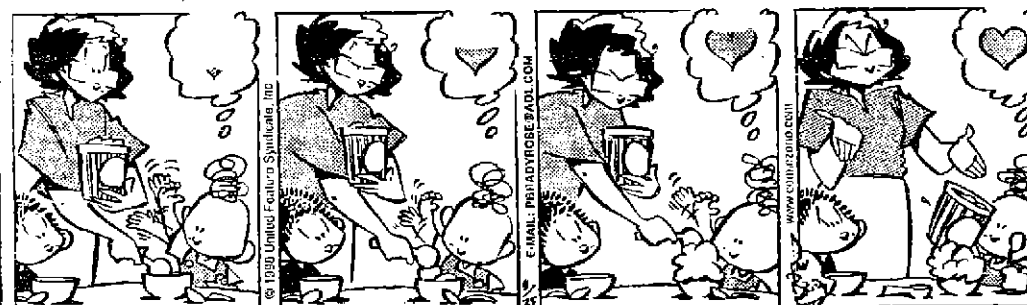
9 CHICKWEED LANE



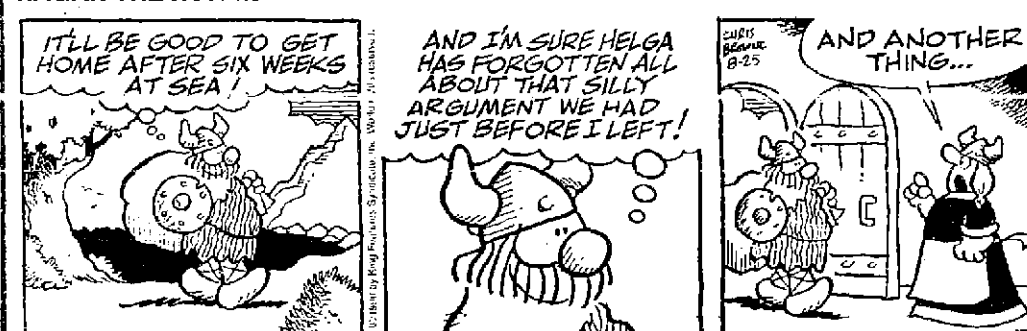
ANDY CAPP



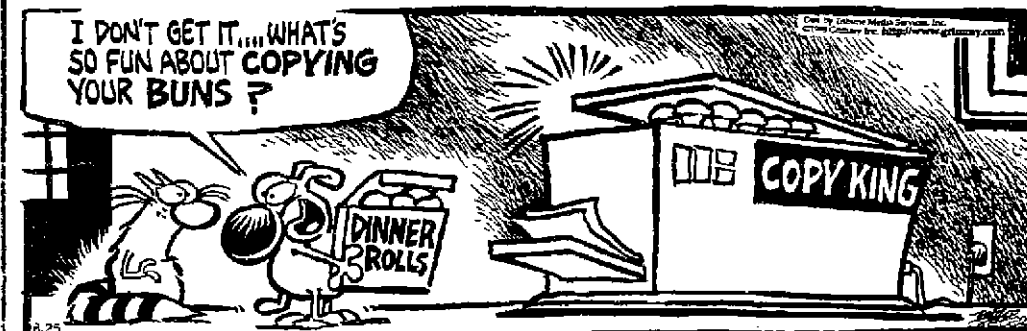
ROSE IS ROSE



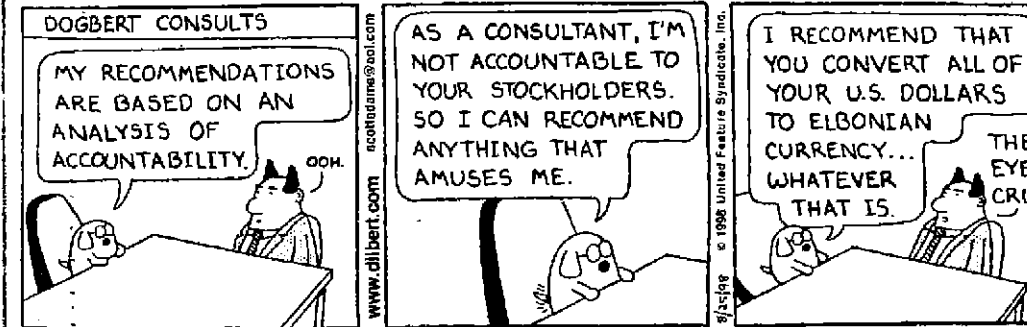
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



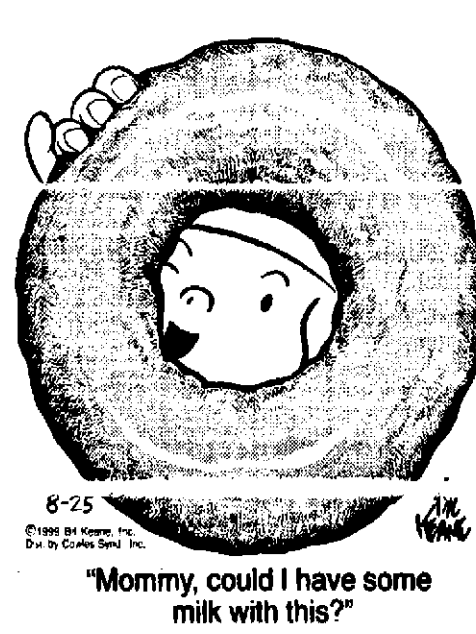
DILBERT



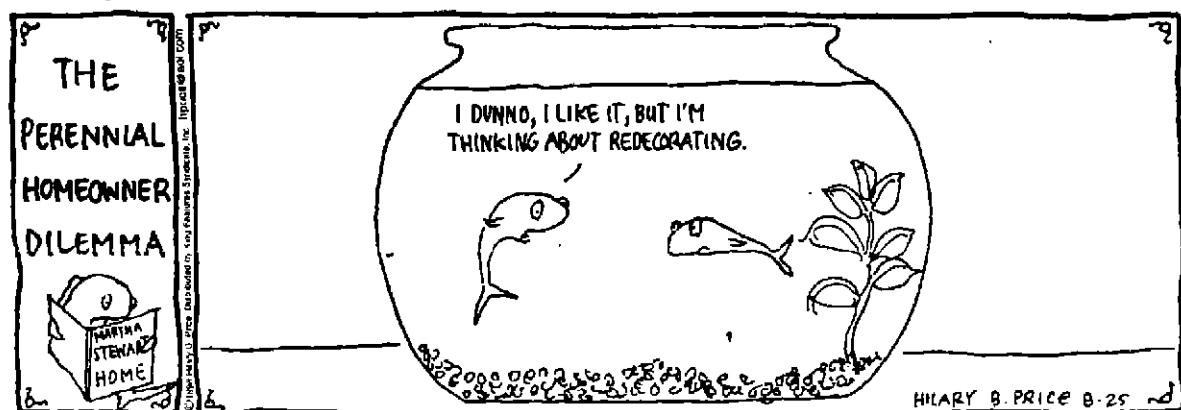
DENNIS THE MENACE



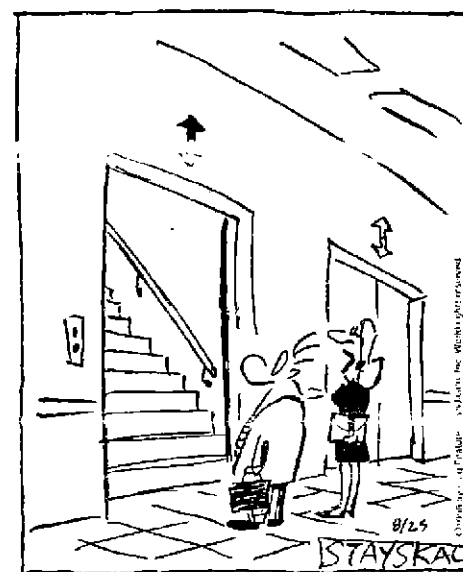
FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



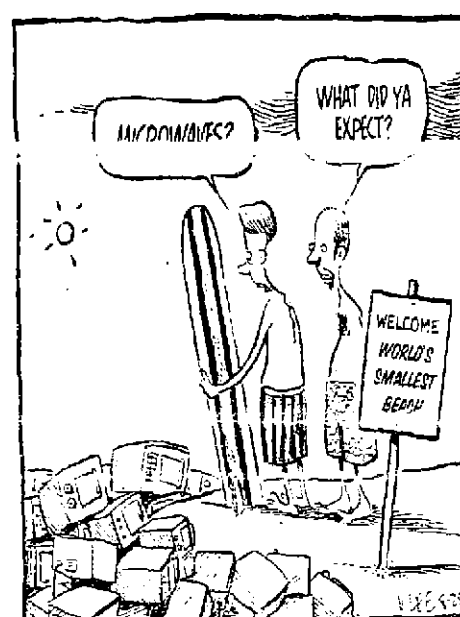
RALPH



Today's Birthdays

Actor Van Johnson is 82. Actor-producer Mel Ferrer is 84. Game show host Monty Hall is 75. Actor Sean Connery is 68. Actor Tom Skerritt is 65. Talk show host Regis Philbin is 64. Movie director Hugh Hudson is 62. Actor David Canary is 60. Rock singer-actor Gene Simmons is 49. Actor John Savage is 49. Actress Ally Walker ("Profiler") is 37. Country singer Billy Ray Cyrus is 37.

I NEED HELP



SCRABBLE

W O O N H E Double Word Score
P H E S A R I 4th Letter Triple
P D E I S M K
T A L E L D S

PAR SCORE 140-150
by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merriam-Webster) and OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW 8-25-98 © 1998, United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

For solution, see Classified.

HOROSCOPE

For Wednesday, Aug. 26, 1998

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) A difficult situation will become impossible if you don't rely on the help of friends and allies.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You are either propelled or repelled by a stranger. Make no important decisions until you get to know him or her a little better.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Withhold judgment until you have had time to think through a situation. Spend time at night in deep reflection.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A situation turns from mediocre to spectacular, thanks to your skills and charm. Surround yourself with good friends.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) As much as you hate to be the bearer of bad news, it's best that you tell someone about your newfound knowledge.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) A veil of mystery that has surrounded a secret suddenly is lifted. You are impressed with the communication abilities of someone close to you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You and your partner might not be connecting when it comes to passion or sensuality.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Take the opportunity to make a difference in the life of someone less fortunate.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Accepting a limitation helps you uncover a different source of strength. It's a good time to let your hair down.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) It is a fantastic time to embark on new projects. If you have a business meeting scheduled, make sure you have done your homework.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) It's an ideal time to get in touch with your inner child.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) A flurry of activity is bound to brighten your sagging spirits. Don't forget to listen if a friend comes to you for advice.

WORD SLEUTH

News-

U Q N K H E S B Y V S P M J R
H E B Y V T Q S A O L I G D E
B Y C O N F E R E N C E W T T
R P M K I F D B E N C Y W U T
S Q O M K I F T N T I H D B E
Z X W U S K A Q I Y R S O O L
N L J H A D C F Z H C O U R C
W I R E P A P D A S C N P B I
A Y R U S Y W V G A T S E E T
Q B P T U O K C A L B N L G R
K I H F E B C B M F Z Y W V A

Monday's unlisted clue: FLOCK

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Tuesday's unlisted clue hint: DAN RATHER

Agency Break Flash Reporter
Article Business Letter Update
Blackout Cast Magazine Wire
Boy Conference Paper

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For solution, see Classified.

ACES ON BRIDGE

By Bobby Wolff

"How would you play six no-trump against the lead of the spade jack?" a player asked an expert. "Much depends upon my feel of the table," was the reply.

"With no psychological clues, it's a guess whether to finesse in hearts or in diamonds. However, I give a slight preference to hearts."

Lacking any inferences, the expert suggested that South win dummy's spade king at trick one and lead a heart to his king at trick two.

His reason was that if it lost, and if West didn't also have the heart queen, South could try the diamond finesse, not a bad approach, but Henry Baer of Dallas found the winning line.

Maybe it was intuition rather than inferences. He won dummy's spade king and cashed dummy's ace and 10 of clubs.

After cashing his spade ace, he ran his clubs, discarding three high diamonds from dummy. Next he cashed dummy's spades, keeping only the singleton heart king and the A-10 of diamonds in his hand.

Forced down to three cards, what could poor West do? He had to blank either his heart ace or diamond king, and whichever he chose spelled curtains. In desperation, he blanked the diamond king, and Henry took two winners with his ace and 10, making the slam. The Laws condemn intentional deceptive maneuvers, but inadvertent changes in tempo or in the manner that bids and plays are made are unavoidable. Nevertheless, inferences from such variation may be drawn only by an opponent and at his own risk.

NORTH
♠ K Q 10 9 8
♥ J 5
♦ Q J 9 4
♣ A 10

WEST
♠ J
♥ A Q 7 3
♦ K 8 5 3
♣ 8 7 4 3

EAST
♠ 6 4 3 2
♥ 8 6 4 2
♦ 7 6 2
♣ 5 2

SOUTH
♠ A 7 5
♥ K 10 9
♦ A J V
♣ K Q J 9 6

Vulnerable: Both

Dealer: North

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♦	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	4 NT	Pass
5 ♦	Pass	6 NT	All pass

Opening lead: Spade jack

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 0714

ACROSS

- 1 Legally impedes
- 7 May school event, often
- 11 Like 1, 3 or 7
- 14 Filled with the old school spirit
- 15 The last Mrs. Chaplin
- 16 By way of
- 17 ST
- 20 Spreading tree
- 21 Legal offense
- 22 Main bloodline
- 23 Hair division
- 24 Pharmaceutical-approving org.
- 25 TU
- 33 Cut dramatically
- 34 Not quite closed
- 35 Life force, in Eastern philosophy
- 36 Luke's mentor, in "Star Wars"
- 37 Bombastic
- 39 Bunny's tail
- 40 When repeated, a dance
- 41 Bulging earthenware vessel
- 42 Legal setting
- 43 UV
- 47 Toward the tiller
- 48 Meadow murmurs
- 49 Jellied dish
- 52 Young seal
- 54 Sign of success
- 57 VW
- 60 Little —, 60's singer
- 61 Disney's "— of the South"
- 62 Runoff point
- 63 Actress Susan
- 64 Tarzan's home
- 65 Canine covering

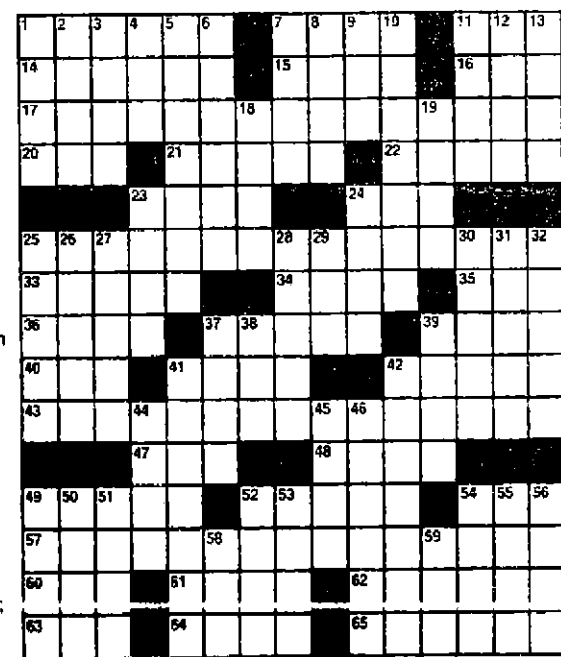
DOWN

- 1 Highlands tongue
- 2 Political comic Mort
- 3 Relative of Geo. and Robt.
- 4 Hart Trophy winner, 1970-72
- 5 1987 Wimbledon winner
- 6 Steinhauer of the L.P.G.A.
- 7 Sonnet, e.g.
- 8 Teased mercilessly
- 9 Switch settings
- 10 El toro's opponent
- 11 Completed
- 12 Weight-loss plan
- 13 Spreadsheet numbers
- 18 Silents star Naldi
- 19 Speckled horse
- 23 Leaning Tower's city
- 24 Come apart at the seams
- 25 Course in which to study Freud
- 26 Wahine's nickname
- 27 Kind of beacon
- 28 Like Fran Drescher's voice
- 29 What to wear when one goes beddy-bye
- 30 Come to pass

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

ABHOR SEGA SOLE
BLARE CROW INON
BELETTTERPERFECT
RUSSIAN ATTAR
EXT USS OLE
MAMAS SPAS
OBIS SCHELL RAJ
PUSHTHREVELOPE

PEEK QUEST
UNI TDS YAU
PINTO HORIZONS
STAMPOFAPPROVAL
ERNE WIMS ELEVE
YEEN EGGY DARED



Puzzle by Raymond Hamel

31 "Star Trek" lieutenant
32 — gritty
37 Overabundance
38 The whole enchilada
39 Drunkards
41 Thrown away
49 Johnny

50 P.G.A. Masters champion Ballesteros
51 Talk in church
52 Go downhill
53 Bigger than the both of us
54 Fat-free, as milk
55 Russo of "In the Line of Fire"
56 Hurler Hersher
58 Neither's partner
59 Gardner of "The Barefoot Contessa"

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-900-420-5656 (95¢ per minute).

Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.